

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
Olympia, Washington**

To: Optometrists
Opticians
Managed Care Plans

**Memorandum No: 05-67 MAA
Issued: June 29, 2005**

From: Douglas Porter, Assistant Secretary
Medical Assistance Administration (MAA)

**For Information Call:
(800) 562-6188**

**Supersedes # Memorandum:
04-46**

Subject: Vision Care: Policy Changes to WAC and updated Billing Instructions

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2005, the Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) will implement the following:

- Policy changes in accordance with WAC 388-544-0010 through WAC 388-544-0600 effective July 2005;
- Updated Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Data Base (MPFSDB) Year 2005 relative value units (RVUs); and
- One (1.0) percent vendor rate increase.

What are the major policy changes to the Vision Care program?

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2005, MAA implemented the following changes to the Vision Care program:

- Removed coverage of glass eyeglass lenses and expanded coverage to scratch resistant plastic lenses only;
- Expanded coverage of contact lenses to include disposable contacts on monthly and quarterly replacement schedules;
- Eliminated the minimum diopter contact lenses requirement for keratoconus;
- Clarified the diopter requirements regarding sphere and cylinder powers;
- Expanded coverage of high-index eyeglass lenses to include cylinder correction of +/- three diopters;
- Expanded the list of diagnoses to cover the tinting of plastic eyeglass lenses;
- Changed qualifying diagnoses for plastic photochromatic eyeglass lenses;
- Changed and clarified MAA's expedited prior authorization (EPA) criteria;
- Updated and clarified the noncovered section;
- Updated and clarified the definition section;
- Added ocularist to eligible provider types;

- Added policy of requiring the return of unclaimed hardware and contact lenses to MAA's supplier; and
- Clarified benefit and prior authorization requirements for the Alien Emergency Medical (AEM) program.

Maximum Allowable Fees

MAA is updating the Vision Care Services fee schedule with Year 2005 RVUs. The 2005 Washington State Legislature appropriated a one (1.0) percent vendor rate increase for the 2006 state fiscal year. The maximum allowable fees have been adjusted to reflect these changes.

Bill MAA your usual and customary charge.

Diagnosis Reminder

MAA requires valid and complete ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes. When billing MAA, use the highest level of specificity (4th or 5th digits when applicable) or the entire claim will be denied.

Airway Optical Prescription Order Form

How do I obtain Airway Optical prescription order forms?

- **Contact Airway Optical for prescription order forms** – Phone (888) 606-7788 or Fax (888) 606-7789.

MAA's Provider Issuances

To obtain DSHS/HRSA provider numbered memoranda and billing instruction, go to the DSHS/HRSA website at <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov> (click *the Billing Instructions and Numbered Memorandum* link). These may be downloaded and printed.